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Weekend, December 1-3, 2017 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

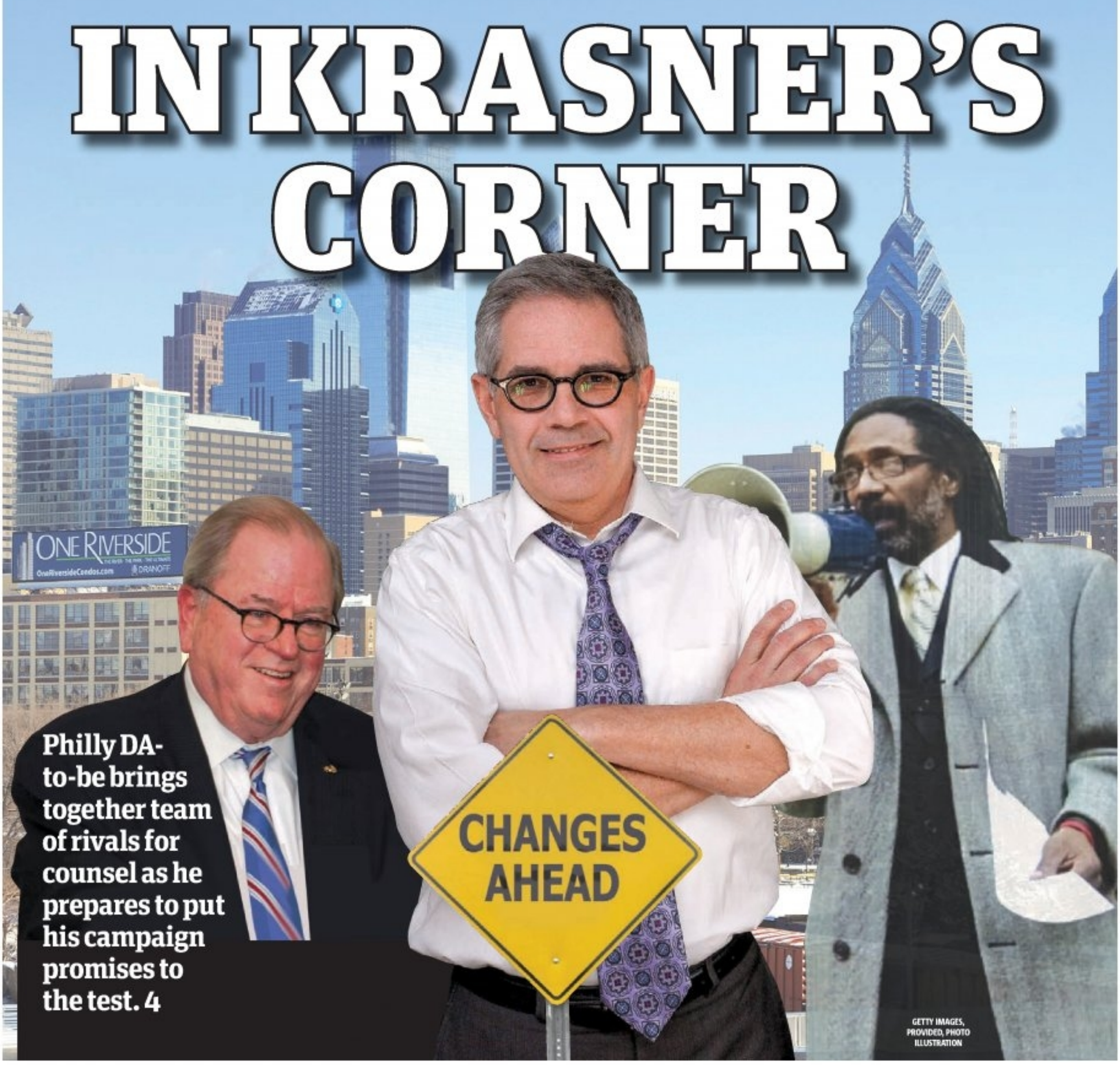
NOT SLEEPING ON SEATTLE

The Eagles are not taking the Seahawks lightly, even without their top defensive players. 19

World AIDS Day. 8

Join a chorus of merry strangers at The Singing Fountain. 18

IN KRASNER'S CORNER



Philly DA-to-be brings together team of rivals for counsel as he prepares to put his campaign promises to the test. 4

GETTY IMAGES, PROVIDED, PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

WELCOME TO METRO PHILLY

SAM NEWHOUSE, REPORTER

DA-elect Larry Krasner came in on a wave of support to take over a DA's office which, while currently admirably led by interim DA Kelley Hodge, is still tainted by the conviction of DA Seth Williams and decades of racial unfairness in the justice system. He's asked a diverse team of Philadelphians to help him change that. Read all about it inside and at **MetroPhilly.us.**

CONYERS NOT QUITTING, CALLS ON HIM TO RESIGN

House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi called on Democratic Representative John Conyers to resign, calling sexual harassment allegations against him serious and credible, but Conyers' attorney said he was not thinking of stepping down. "That decision will be completely up to the congressman. He's not thought of that," Reed said. Instead, Conyers, 88, was focusing on his health after being hospitalized on Wednesday after suffering dizziness, light-headedness and shortness of breath. Speaking to reporters in Washington, Pelosi said "zero tolerance means consequences for everyone." "The brave women who came forward are owed justice," she said. "Congressman Conyers should resign." Conyers is one of numerous public figures who have been accused in recent weeks of sexual harassment and misconduct.

TRUMP CONSIDERS PLAN TO REPLACE TILLERSON

President Donald Trump is considering a plan to oust Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, who has had a strained relationship with his boss over North Korea and other issues. Tillerson would be replaced by CIA director Mike Pompeo, known as a Trump loyalist, within weeks under a White House plan to carry out the most significant staff shake-up of the Trump administration so far. Republican Senator Tom Cotton would be tapped to replace Pompeo at the CIA. It was not clear whether Trump had given final approval to the latest staff shake-up, but one of the officials said the president asked for the plan to be put together. Tillerson's rumored departure would end a troubled tenure that has been increasingly at odds with Trump over policy challenges such as North Korea and under fire for his planned State Department cuts.

5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

WHITE HOUSE TREE

3 President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump participate in the 95th annual National Christmas Tree lighting ceremony held by the National Park Service on the Ellipse near the White House on Thursday evening in Washington, D.C.

GETTY IMAGES

FEMA CHIEF QUESTIONS AGENCY'S ROLE

The head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency on Thursday said the wave of recent U.S. disasters, from multiple storms to raging wildfires, must redefine the agency's role and that localities must be more prepared to shoulder crises. FEMA Administrator Brock Long told Congress members the scale of assisting victims and rebuilding damaged areas has tested the agency, busted budgets and strained resources, and that more of the nation's emergency response must fall on its citizenry. "It is time to question what is FEMA's role in disaster response and recovery," Long said before the U.S House of Representatives' Appropriations Committee. "FEMA ... (was) never designed to be the first responder and the only responder in a disaster, but in many cases that's where we find ourselves."

AG SESSIONS EVASIVE ON RUSSIA PROBE

U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions refused to answer questions during a closed congressional hearing about whether President Donald Trump ever instructed him to hinder the Justice Department's investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election, according to Democratic lawmakers who attended. Sessions testified behind closed doors for several hours before the U.S. House of Representatives Intelligence Committee. Representative Adam Schiff, the committee's top Democrat, told reporters he was troubled by Sessions' refusal to answer what he believes are essential questions. "I asked the attorney general whether he was ever instructed by the president to take any action that he believed would hinder the Russia investigation and he declined to answer the question," Schiff told reporters after the hearing.

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DA-elect Krasner announces transition team to help bring promises to reality

Larry Krasner is under national scrutiny as he prepares to lead criminal prosecution with only the experience of a defense attorney.

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Larry Krasner is getting ready for action. The Philadelphia DA-elect, catapulted to office by a landslide of enthusiasm and a record-setting vote, will take office on Jan. 2, 2018.

On Friday, Krasner's team will announce the members of its transition team, effectively a "superbrain" tackling how to start making his promised reforms become reality.

It's a group that unexpectedly asks the community leaders and activists who got Krasner elected to sit down with people who have spent years working within law enforcement.

"I know that there are people here who will challenge me and the movement behind this campaign," Krasner said. "I will not necessarily agree with them on everything, but that was kind of the point — we really want a diversity of perspectives."

Krasner has no prosecutorial experience, but he says he has found common ground on policy with his transition team members experienced in the realities of law enforcement, like former Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Ronald Castille and former Philadelphia Police Commissioner Sylvester Johnson.

"I'm probably not going to agree with Justice Castille on everything, but his insight on mandatory sentencing and his feelings around the failure of traditional drug enforcement are pretty similar to mine, so I value his perspective, even if we don't feel the same way about everything," Krasner said. "Commissioner Johnson has been pretty outspoken about the reality that law enforcement fails without grassroots support, without community involvement, and it fails when the relationship between police and the communities they protect is broken, so I value his input."

Krasner said he is not commenting yet on what exact policies his office will have in place on day one. He asserted that the Philly DA's office could become "a model for the nation."

He said he's closely studying the best practices around the nation for conviction integrity/post-conviction relief, reviewing old convictions on a variety of complaints. He talked about replacing arguments over how high a defendant's cash bail should be with "bilateral recommendations" based on "risk assessment."

"We don't want to have people locked up just because they're broke, which is exactly what happens," he said. "But we will not get support from this legislature. We're never going to get a law passed like they did in D.C. saying judges can never use cash as an aspect of bail, it doesn't matter that it was extremely successful in D.C. This legislature — you've got a lot of Trump lawn signs."

Larry Krasner, pictured here in his Center City offices, will be taking over the office of Philadelphia District Attorney.
CHARLES MOSTOLELR

> ***"I know that there are people here who will challenge me and the movement behind this campaign. I will not necessarily agree with them on everything, but that was kind of the point — we really want a diversity of perspectives."***
> Larry Krasner

Krasner says he expects his policies, among the most radically to the left of any DA in the nation, to succeed in court and, over time, to earn the support of everyone from judges to bail commissioners. But experienced prosecutors and other members of law enforcement have said he is too "radical" to be DA.

"I would probably describe what has been happening in the last 30 years as radical," Krasner said of the period since the late '80s, when drug sentences have multiplied and mass incarceration has boomed. "I would describe what's going to happen in the future as a return to a balanced approach to criminal justice. But you are going to see different outcomes."

Ultimately, he said he sees his huge primary win — 150,000 votes out of 200,000 and, out of the total participation rate, a third higher than any DA candidate in 20 years — as a community mandate for the reforms he promised on the campaign trail. Beyond his own votes, he noted the turnout was well above the average 120,000 votes in the last three primaries for DA.

"That is an explosion of voters who are used to staying home. And they came out for a reason, because they wanted change," he said. "And they're going to get it because that is why they got up and pulled on their shoes and went to the polls and voted."

KRASNER'S TRANSITION TEAM

- Chris Woods, District 1199C leader (co-chair)
- Marian B. Tasco, former councilwoman (co-chair)
- Jeff Brown, Shoprite CEO
- Ronald Castille, former Philly DA and Supreme Court justice
- Michael Coard, civil rights and defense attorney
- Michael DiBerardinis, city managing director
- Carolyn Engel Temin, former judge
- Charles Gibbs, attorney
- Marie Gottschalk, UPenn professor
- Ryan Hancock, attorney and Philadelphia Lawyers for Social Equity board member
- Elizabeth Holtzman, former U.S. rep.
- Sylvester Johnson, former police commissioner
- Movita Johnson-Harrell, victim advocate
- Joanna McClinton, state rep.
- Patricia Pierce, attorney
- Maria Quinones-Sanchez, councilwoman

Magnitude 4.1 quake strikes Delaware, equals estimated state record

A magnitude 4.1 earthquake struck Delaware on Thursday in a rare seismological occurrence for the U.S. Northeast, officials said, with the temblor's strength equaling the estimated magnitude of an 1871 quake that was believed to be the largest ever in the state.

The quake, previously reported at magnitude 5.1 and then at 4.4, was centered in the Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge, according to a statement from the Delaware Emergency Management Agency. It was less than 10 miles from the city of Dover.

There were no reports of injuries or damage, officials said.

In 1871, a quake believed to have been of magnitude 4.1 struck in Delaware, according to the website for the Delaware Geological Survey, a state agency.

The 1871 quake had been the largest on record for Delaware, according to the survey, but its strength has only been estimated.

Earthquakes in Delaware do not occur on the edge of a tectonic plate, as is more common in places such as California, where fault lines between plates generate earthquakes.

Instead, the Delaware temblor occurred far from the edge of a plate, said Thomas Pratt, a research geophysicist at the U.S. Geological Survey who is based in Virginia.

"There's a lot of speculation, but we don't have a good answer for why these earthquakes are occurring in the middle of the plates," Pratt said.

The latest quake was downgraded to a magnitude 4.1 after data came in from several monitoring stations, U.S. Geological Survey geophysicist Rafael Abreu said by telephone.

It was felt in Philadelphia, some 53 miles from the epicenter.

The quake was shallow, only 5 miles deep, which would have amplified its effect, and some people reported feeling light shaking in areas around New York City and Baltimore, according to the USGS website.

Many social media users also confirmed feeling the temblor and #earthquake had quickly risen to the top of trending topics on Twitter with more than 11,000 tweets mentioning the hashtag. REUTERS

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TAXES

Senate tax bill stumbles on deficit-focused 'trigger'

A Republican tax overhaul stalled on a procedural issue in the U.S. Senate on Thursday, forcing lawmakers to weigh new options to an amendment sought by a leading fiscal hawk to address the bill's projected large expansion of the federal deficit.

Sen. Bob Corker wanted to add a provision that would trigger automatic tax increases in years ahead if tax cuts in the bill failed to boost the economy and generate revenues sufficient to offset the estimated deficit expansion.

But the Senate parliamentarian barred Corker's "trigger" proposal on procedural grounds. "We just got the realization from the parliamentarian that that's probably not going to work," said Republican Sen. David Perdue.

The setback underscored nagging concerns among fiscal conservatives in the party about the deficit impact of the tax bill, seen by Republicans as crucial to their political prospects in the November 2018 U.S. elections, when they will seek to keep control of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Since taking office in January, President Donald Trump and fellow Republicans in control of Congress have yet to pass major legislation, a fact they hope to change with their proposed tax code overhaul, which would be the biggest since the 1980s.

A decisive Senate vote on the tax bill had been seen as possible on Thursday. It was not immediately clear when a vote would occur as Republicans wrestled with the obstacle thrown in their path by the parliamentarian.

Corker's "trigger" amendment was needed to win his vote for the bill, as well as the votes of other Republican senators worried about the deficit. Those worries were raised after congressional analysts said the bill would not boost the economy enough to offset the estimated deficit expansion, as the Trump administration had said it would. REUTERS

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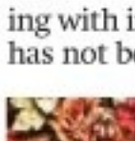
Memorial bike ride planned for slain biker

Victim, 24, was aspiring pastry chef.



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The woman who was killed after being struck by a trash truck in Center City on Tuesday morning will be memorialized by cyclists this weekend, as new details emerge about her life.

Emily Fredricks, 24, was an aspiring pastry chef who worked at Le Chéri in Rittenhouse Square. Family members in her hometown of East Brunswick, New Jersey, grieving for Fredricks, told the Inquirer they hoped her death would not be in vain.

Fredricks was hit when a privately owned trash truck turned right on 11th Street off of Spruce, where they were both traveling — her in a bike lane.

The driver stopped after the crash, is cooperating with investigators and has not been identified.

Spruce Street has 10-foot-wide bike lanes in Center City. But bicycle advocates say the painted lane was faded away near the intersection where Fredricks was hit. City officials say the bike lane was due to be restriped next month.

Bike advocates have demanded permanent safety cones installed to protect the bike lane on Spruce Street. A day after the crash, 100 supporters formed a human barrier on Spruce to protect the bike lane from 11th to 13th streets.

Memorial ride

Fredricks is the third cyclist to die in Philly in 2017.

A ride in her memory is set for Dec. 3 at 11:30 a.m., beginning at the Art Museum steps.

"For the third time this year, we remember a life tragically lost while cycling," organizers wrote. "We could all be Emily Fredricks. We could all be the next John Doe or Jane Roe. Let's remember them."

Emily Fredricks, 24, was killed in a bike crash in Center City. PROVIDED

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The first World AIDS Day took place in 1988. ISTOCK

World AIDS Day: Amid treatment advances, dropping diagnoses, AIDS crisis remains

"People are living longer and thriving and yet the stigma persists, and there still is no cure," said Sharen Duke of the Alliance for Positive Change.

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"The truth is that absent a cure, we have to prevent new infections," said Sharen Duke of The Alliance for Positive Change. DAVID NAGER/THE ALLIANCE FOR POSITIVE CHANGE

In 1981, a rare infection was first detected in the United States. The virus was eventually identified as acquired immune deficiency syndrome, or AIDS, and a global pandemic — and panic — ensued.

"Fast-forward 30-plus years, and because of treatment advancements people are living longer and thriving and yet, the stigma persists, and there still is no cure," said Sharen Duke, executive director and CEO of The Alliance for Positive Change in New York. "I think that public perception is that AIDS is no longer a crisis, but the truth is that absent a cure, we have to prevent new infections in order to really tackle this disease."

That's where events like World AIDS Day come in. Designated as Dec. 1 in 1988 as the first global health day, World AIDS Day has become a way to remember those who died, celebrate those still living with HIV and continue raising awareness and advocating for policies and resources to end AIDS once and for all.

"World AIDS Day is a day when we at the Alliance do what we do every day, and it's an opportunity for municipalities across the nation to remember and recognize and continue to fight," Duke said. New diagnoses of HIV have been declining in the since the mid-2000s, even reaching a historic low in New York last year, the city's Health Department announced Thursday.

"I think part of that attributes to the success of prevention education and syringe exchange, where new infection rates among injection drug uses have declined significantly," Duke said of that feat, which occurred even as the nation faces an opioid epidemic.

As people with HIV are living longer, they're now facing aging, something early patients sadly didn't get a chance to.

"So many people died so young. Now folks who are living with HIV for 30 years are also experiencing hypertension and co-infection with hepatitis and diabetes," Duke said. "I can only tell you anecdotally that a lot of our folks have chronic conditions related to liver and kidney dysfunction, which could be a side effect of HIV medication. There were medications early on that were very harsh on liver and kidneys."

"The only way to end AIDS is to end new infections and prevent new infections," Duke said.

To that end, she encourages the public to receive an AIDs test at least once a year, engage in safe sex by using condoms or dental dams and use clean needles or syringe exchanges.

"If you're not able to stop using drugs, then we want to teach you to use them safely," she said.

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Man who inspired ALS ice bucket challenge dies at 46

Anthony Senerchia battled the disease for 14 years.

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The rules were simple: Grab a recordable device, pour a bucket of ice water over your head and pass the challenge along via social media calling on three or more people to do the same. If they didn't comply within 24 hours, they'd have to donate money to ALS research.

Anthony Senerchia Jr., the primary inspiration for this 2014 viral campaign known as the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge, died Saturday, Nov. 25, at age 46.

Senerchia was diagnosed with ALS in 2003, just two months after he and his wife, Jeanette, were married, and he went on to battle it for 14 years. According to his obituary, the Pelham, New York, native lived more than 10 years longer than his doctors predicted.

Anthony Senerchia, who battled ALS for 14 years, passed away at 46.
DEBORAH J. KARSON

ALS, or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a neurodegenerative disease that targets nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord, according to The ALS Association. Patients can lose the ability to move, speak, eat and breathe on their own.

The average age of diagnosis is 55, and of the cases recorded in the ALS Database, 60 percent are men. While the rate of progression differs by case, the average survival time is three years.

There are two kinds of ALS: sporadic (the most common form in the U.S.) and familial — meaning it's inherited. The disease, which is diagnosed in about 6,000 Americans each year, has no cure.

According to a 2016 press release from the Association, the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge helped it "secure funding from new sources in new parts of the world," in hopes of moving closure to better treatments and an eventual cure.

The campaign also attracted famous faces — celebrities and politicians alike — such as Jimmy Fallon, Bill Gates, Lena Dunham and Selena Gomez.

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Matt Lauer and John Lasseter have recently been implicated in sexual-misconduct scandals. GETTY IMAGES

One guy predicted Lauer and Lasseter. Who else is on his list?

This Twitter thread has the entire entertainment industry guessing.

MICHAEL MARTIN
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Mark Harris is a longtime entertainment journalist in New York City, with bylines ranging from The New York Times to Entertainment Weekly. But most buzzed-about work may be an unfolding, 10-day-old Twitter thread. On Nov. 20, after the Harvey Weinstein sexual-harassment scandal broke, Harris tweeted, "I just did a quick count of the harassment stories in entertainment or media that I know are being worked on. Seven."

The next day, he tweeted "1. John Lasseter," amid news that the head of Pixar Studios was temporarily stepping down for inappropriate behavior. Yesterday's revelations about Matt Lauer's firing by NBC brought another tweet, naming the former Today show host "2." That day, Variety and the New York Times published stories detailing that at least two women have come forward with allegations against Lauer.

Now more than a few followers are refreshing the thread constantly, wondering, Who's next?

What's clear is that the breadth of the scandal is wider than even veteran pop-culture reporters realize: The two latest major revelations didn't even make Harris's list. On Wednesday, Minnesota Public Radio announced it was cutting ties to humorist Garrison Keillor after misconduct allegations. On Thursday, Russell Simmons said he was stepping down from his companies after writer Jenny Lumet published a piece in the Hollywood Reporter claiming that he sexually assaulted her in the '90s.

The dam only burst less than a month ago, on Nov. 5, when Jodi Kantor and Megan Twomey reported on Weinstein's history of sexual harassment dating back decades. And there are still depths to plumb in stories that have already been broken — as Harris himself tweeted, "I have so many questions about [former NBC head] Jeff Zucker about Matt Lauer."

An NBC News poll released today shows that more than 80 percent of Americans believe sexual harassment on the job is widespread in any industry, and Hollywood veterans suggest that Harris's list will grow at any minute. "There are some people who go into this business because they get off on having power," Tom Hanks told People.com on Thursday. "And the times they feel the most powerful, which is why they went into the business, are when they are hitting on somebody who's underneath them, [and] I don't necessarily mean completely sexually. There are predators absolutely everywhere."

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Winter movies you won't want to miss

... and just a few that you definitely will. **GREGORY WAKEMAN**

There's only one place that we can really start when it comes to the coming batch of films, and that's in a galaxy far, far away. The latest installment of the world's greatest movie franchise of all time, "Star Wars: The Last Jedi," drops on ***Dec. 15***. "Star Wars" movies always attract a huge audience (even during the dark days of Jar Jar Binks), but given this one allows the chance for fans to say goodbye to Carrie Fisher, "The Last Jedi" should be even more popular.

In another quadrant of the solar system, the mysterious "God Particle" serves up a space race for survival as the third chapter of the "Cloverfield" films ***(out Feb. 2)***.

Marvel will surely continue its domination of the superhero world with "Black Panther" ***(Feb. 16)***, but make sure you keep an eye out for Alex Garland's follow-up to "Ex Machina" — "Annihilation" — which stars Natalie Portman, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Gina Rodriguez, Oscar Isaac and Tessa Thompson, and is a sci-fi-fantasy-action-horror hybrid with the potential to be a smash hit ***(Feb. 23)***.

"Ferdinand" looks like a hilarious tale for the whole family, and tells the story of a Spanish fighting bull who's actually a big weenie ***(Dec. 15)***. Much cuddlier crowd-pleasing bear "Paddington" returns with a sequel ***Jan. 12***, and ***Feb. 9*** you'll be able to treat yourself to "Peter Rabbit," which looks absolutely adorable, boasts a superb vocal cast and comes from "Easy A" director Will Gluck. Aardman Animations' stellar stop-motion track record means "Early Man" ***(Feb. 16)*** will be a must-see. Even "Maze Runner: The Death Cure" ***(Jan. 26)*** is set to give action-junkie juniors quite a fix.

wknd

This is the time of year for Hollywood to release its biggest contenders for golden statues; as such, prepare for some superpowerful performances throughout the chilly months (the Academy Awards are scheduled for March 4). We can't wait to see Margot Robbie and Allison Janney in the Tonya Harding biopic "I, Tonya" ***(Dec. 8)***, Jessica Chastain and Idris Elba in "Molly's Game" ***(Dec. 25)***, and Daniel Day-Lewis's purported final performance in "Phantom Thread" ***(Dec. 25)***. Each has gotten nomination chatter, and they aren't even out yet! The Christian Bale-led western "Hostiles" ***(Dec. 22)*** and Matt Damon's climate satire "Downsizing" ***(Dec. 22)*** are getting a lot of buzz, and it'll be impossible for the Academy to resist Steven Spielberg's "The Post" ***(Dec. 22)***, as it stars Meryl Streep AND Tom Hanks, and is all about the importance of a free press in the U.S.

After the huge success of "La La Land" it was to be expected that various copycat films would follow. Not that audiences are complaining, because Hugh Jackman as the all-singing, all-dancing P.T. Barnum in "The Greatest Showman" ***(Dec. 20)*** looks particularly eye-catching. It also sees Zac Efron returning to the genre for the first time since "High School Musical 3." Anna Kendrick, Rebel Wilson and the rest of the Pitches are back in "Pitch Perfect 3" ***(Dec. 22)***, too, while Netflix's "The Polka King" ***(Jan. 12)*** will see the always watchable Jack Black belting out tunes as polka sensation Jan Lewan.

The first few weeks of the year are also used by studios to dump films they have little hope for. So that's why it's hard to get too excited about "Insidious: The Last Key," "12 Strong," "Den of Thieves" ***(all Jan. 12)*** or "Arctic Justice: Thunder Squad" ***(Jan. 26)***. There's more hope for "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle" ***(Dec. 20)*** because of its terrific cast, and "Bright" ***(Dec. 22)*** — Netflix's attempt to make a big-budgeted fantasy blockbuster led by bona-fide Hollywood royalty Will Smith. Liam Neeson is still playing the action star in "The Commuter" ***(Jan. 12)***, and we're keeping our fingers crossed for him, but the same can't be said for "War With Grandpa" ***(Feb.23)***, which is just another Robert DeNiro comedy. Finally, the fact that "Fifty Shades Freed" ***(Feb. 9)*** even exists is something we should all be embarrassed by.

"Wonder Wheel"

Director: Woody Allen
Stars: Kate Winslet, Justin Timberlake
Rating: PG-13

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Ultimately, Wonder Wheel ends too abruptly to be labeled as one of Woody Allen's very best. But it is exceptionally watchable. Allen revels in shooting Coney Island, finding the nooks, crannies and nostalgia that only a Brooklyn native raised in his era could know. And the film's soap opera-adjacent plot is juxtaposed with enough heart and humor to keep you invested.

It also helps that the performances are impeccable. Kate Winslet is the standout, expertly notching up Ginny's rage without boiling over into melodrama. Juno Temple, Justin Timberlake, and, yes, Jim Belushi deliver stirring and deep portrayals with discipline. *Out in limited release Dec. 1.* GREGORY WAKEMAN

"The Shape of Water"

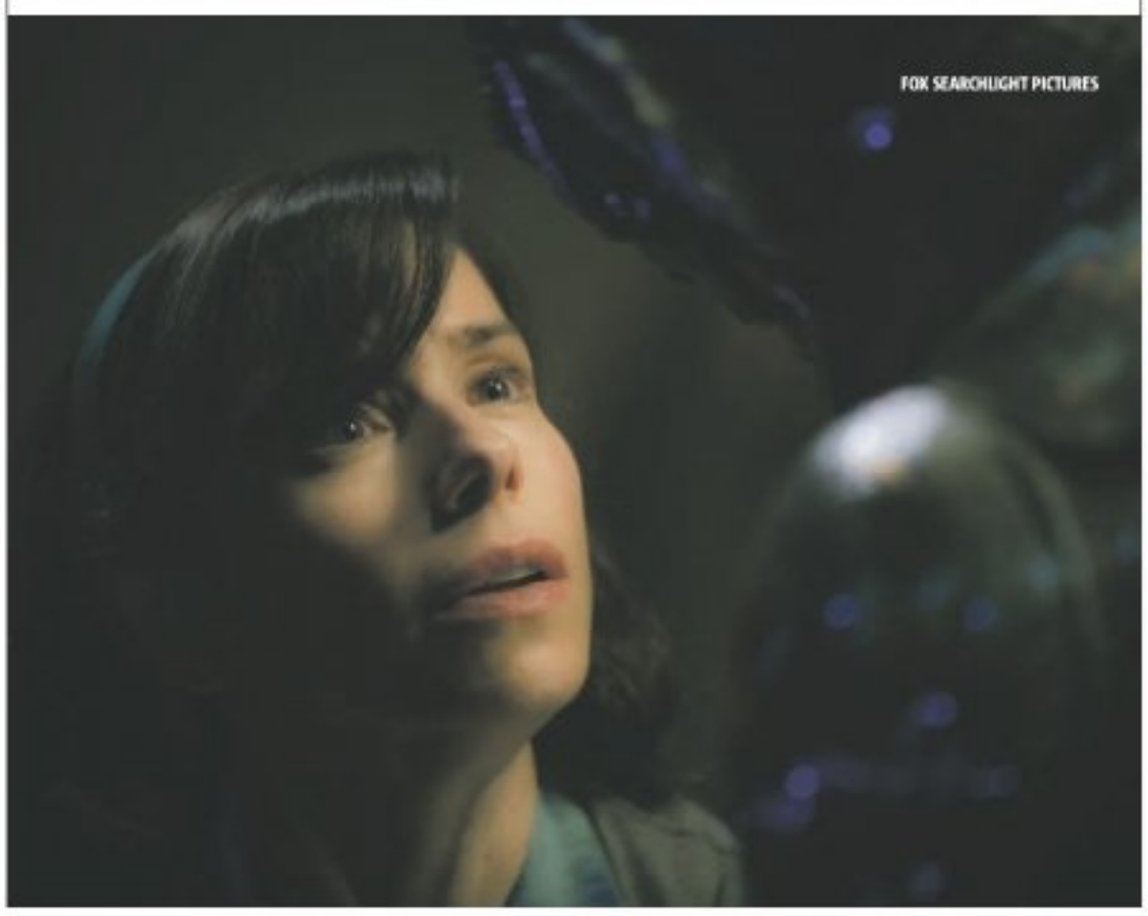
Director: Guillermo del Toro
Stars: Sally Hawkins, Richard Jenkins
Rating: R

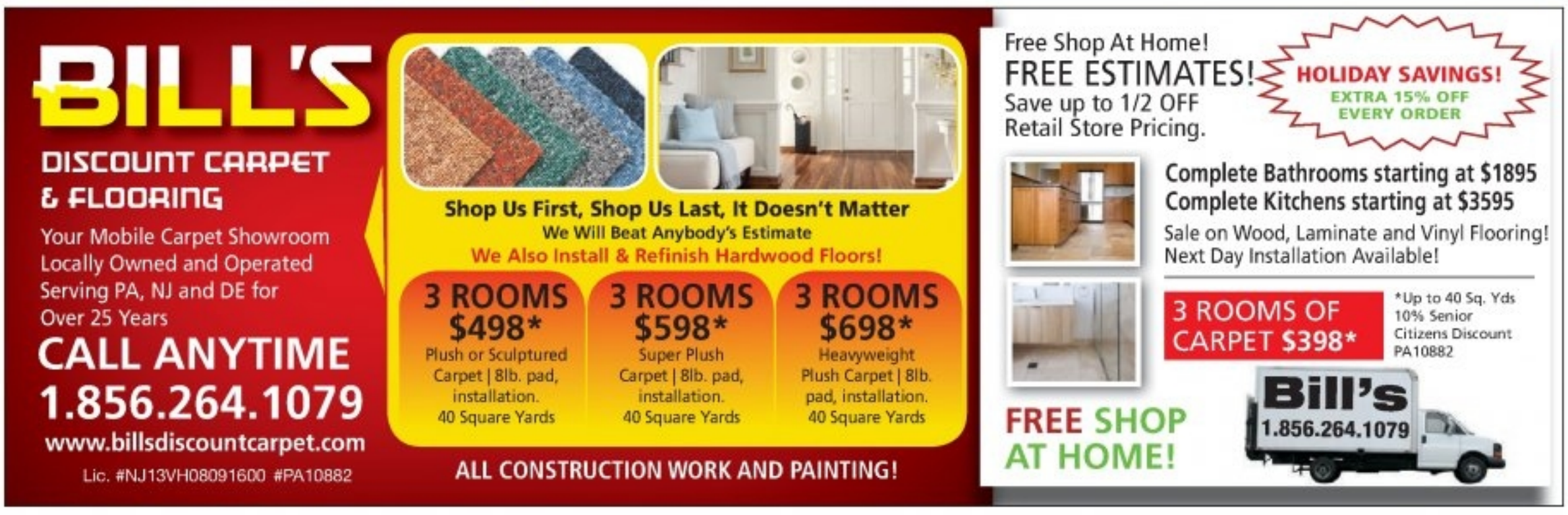
●●●●○

Guillermo del Toro's profound love of cinema and meticulous eye for the dark and bizarre has always meant that watching one of his films is an utterly absorbing and unique experience.

With "The Shape of Water," all of that comes together in arguably the most profound manner of his career so far. The structuring (and the work of composer Alexandre Desplat and cinematographer Dan Laustsen) builds tirelessly throughout, never stagnating.

As Elisa, Sally Hawkins steals the show. She's so expressive, boisterous, romantic, and charismatic — all without saying a word — that you're left in awe of her performance. Although it might not culminate with a surprising crescendo, "Shape Of Water" strikes all the right notes. *Out in limited release Dec. 1.* GW

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Liam Cunningham goes rogue

How Westeros' most beloved smuggler turned himself into a capitalist bad guy for "24 Hours to Live."

GREGORY WAKEMAN
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gregory.wakeman@metro.us

In the action-thriller "24 Hours to Live," Liam Cunningham plays the villain to Ethan Hawke's redemptive hero. MIKE PONT/GETTY IMAGES

Playing Davos Seaworth in "Game of Thrones" has left Liam Cunningham with less time to dabble with other characters and projects. But after wrapping up the series' most recent season as Westeros' most beloved smuggler (and Jon Snow's most trusted confidant), the 56-year-old Irish actor needed a change. So much so that he found major appeal in playing a self-serving, capitalist bad guy in "24 Hours to Live," out on Ultra VOD and select cinemas on December 1.

"You can be a bit more in your face as a villain," he says over the phone in his trademark dulcet tones. "The bad roles are usually the more fun ones to play. There's something therapeutic about playing a pig. It was great fun."

"24 Hours To Live" revolves around a career assassin, played by Ethan Hawke, who is revived after being killed on the job, and given one last chance at redemption.

For Cunningham, who first came to prominence for his supporting role in Steve McQueen's "Hunger" opposite Michael Fassbender, working on something that was completely different from the "Thrones" world was reason enough to sign up.

"It was just really nice to do an action thriller, to get away from 'Game Of Thrones,' he says. "That's long-form storytelling and it has huge complications. This was a straightforward, knock-them-about, car chase sort of thing."

Cunningham was able to draw on his own experiences as he had actually met members of the mercenary companies that his villain is loosely based on.

"I've met a few of these guys before that used to be regular army and are now paid to do war as a commercial exercise," he says. "Politically it was interesting to see. Because these kind of people exist in the darker areas of our world.

"And they have a huge amount of power and cause a lot of harm. On the serious side of things, there's no harm in shining light on them."

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On Dec. 1 and Dec. 2, Ardmore will get into the holiday spirit with the fourth annual Cricket Cringle event along Cricket Avenue in downtown Ardmore.

Inspired by holiday markets found in Europe, over 40 merchants and food vendors will be on site for this special shopping experience.

"Cricket Cringle is one of the events in our area that signify the start of the holiday season and we are pleased to see it continue along Cricket Avenue", says Christine Vilardo, executive director of the Ardmore Initiative. "We thank our 2017 presenting sponsor, PECO, and are pleased to announce that with their donation we will light trees, holiday snowflakes and bring back the lighted A's throughout Downtown Ardmore for all to enjoy."

Here are five things you can't miss at Cricket Cringle 2017.

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The shopping

Have a lot of holiday shopping to do? Merchants at Cricket Cringle 2017 will offer everything from jewelry to housewares to clothing to wreaths to spruce up your home for the holidays. What's more, many of the products are handcrafted, so you can be sure you're getting something unique. Keep an eye out for ornaments from A Piece of the Beach, jewelry from Gigi Singh and women's apparel from Alice Alexander.

If you go

Cricket Cringle 2017, Friday, Dec. 1, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Cricket Avenue, Ardmore
Free to attend, destinationardmore.com

ALIZA SCHLABACH

The entertainment

Each day of Cricket Cringle is jam-packed with live music and dance performances. Merion Mercy Handbells and Choral Ensemble kicks the party off on Friday along with Song for Seeds and First Position Dance Arts. Saturday will feature music from Main Line Classical, Bethel AME Youth Choir, Philadelphia Studio Ballet and more.

The food

All of that shopping sure does make a person hungry! Lucky for you, there will be plenty of food purveyors on hand, like Bonjour Creperie, Baby Blues BBQ, All of a Sudden Desserts, Dos Hermanos and Say Cheese. For the adults, Iron Hill Brewery will also be serving up craft beer.

PROVIDED

Santa will be there

Do your kids want to see Santa this weekend? He'll be at Cricket Cringle on Friday night, arriving to the entertainment stage at 7:30 p.m. via fire truck. The reindeer have the night off, apparently, but St. Nick still knows how to ride in style.

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The first 500 attendees get a free tote bag

As the saying goes, the early bird gets the worm, and in the case of Cricket Cringle 2017, you get a cool tote bag of goodies if you're one of the first 500 attendees.

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The Can You Händel It? Pop Up Choir comes to East Passyunk.

MADELINE PRESLAND
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Justin Gonzalez is a tenor singer, performer and music teacher. ALL PHOTOS PROVIDED

Musician Justin Gonzalez wants classical music to be cool in 2017, especially during the holidays.

Gonzalez and South Fellini's Tony Trov bring a pop up choir to East Passyunk on Saturday afternoon. Spontaneous choir members will serenade shoppers with Hallelujah Chorus from George Frideric Handel's "Messiah." But this performance of the traditional number has an unconventional twist.

Gonzalez and Trov draw inspiration from Canadian sensation Choir! Choir! Choir! for this event. A simple concept has astounding results. Bring strangers together, rehearse a song once or twice and record the performance- in less than an hour. So, no pressure? Actually, no. The key purpose is to bring a variety of voices together. As the conductor, Gonzalez plans to embrace the unknown and unheard.

"We'll have who knows how many people from who knows how many walks of life," he says. "It's that moment where we'll come together while singing the same words. This is such a great way to start the month of December and the season of goodwill towards all."

This particular piece from Handel's "Messiah" is usually a notable number in holiday concerts. The Hallelujah Chorus traditionally features an energetic orchestra to amplify the singers' harmonies. But nothing about this pop up performance is traditional. Gonzalez has a backing track of the orchestral parts to help singers follow along. The choir carries the narrative.

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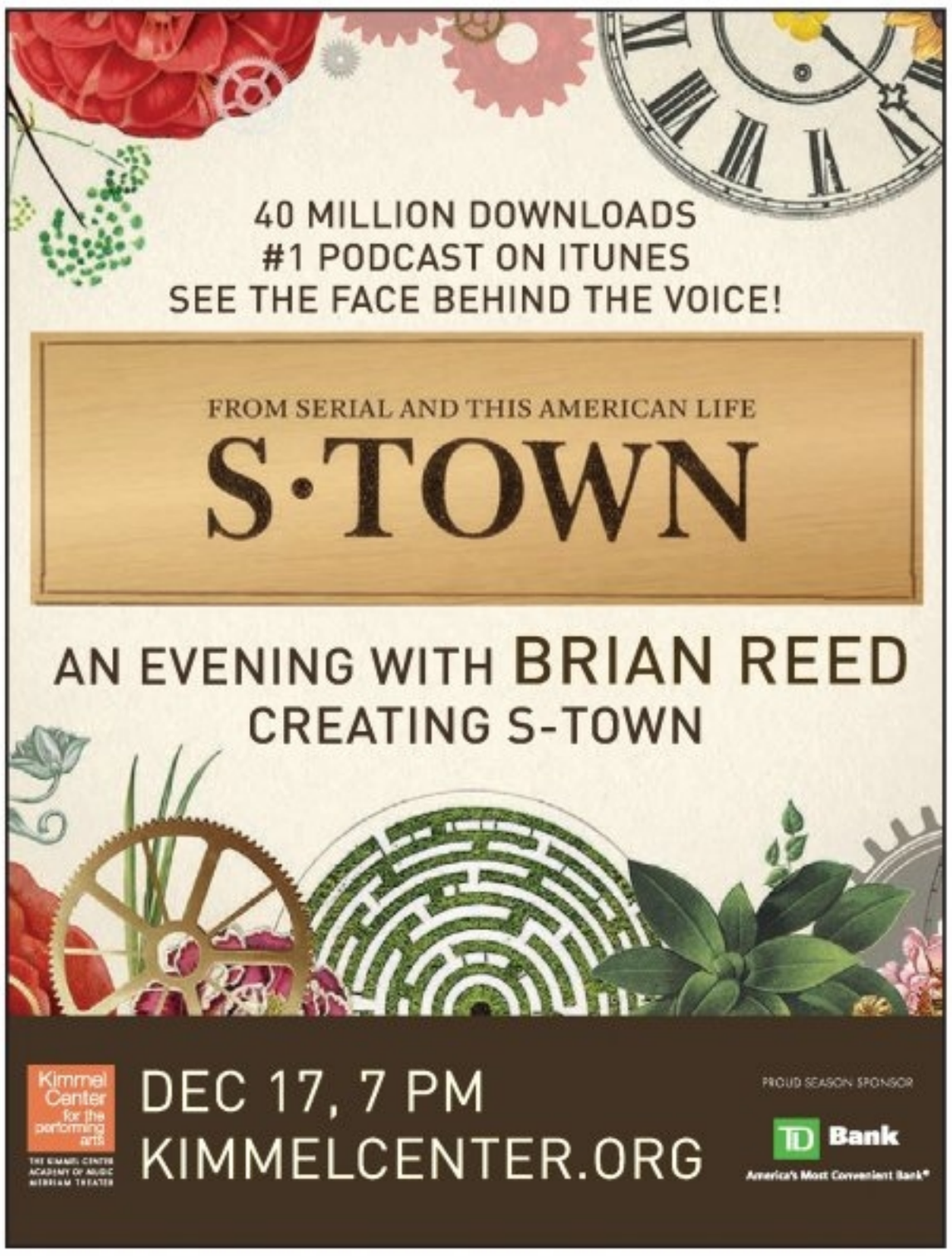
The pop up choir is part of the East Passyunk Avenue Improvement District's Deck the Ave event series.

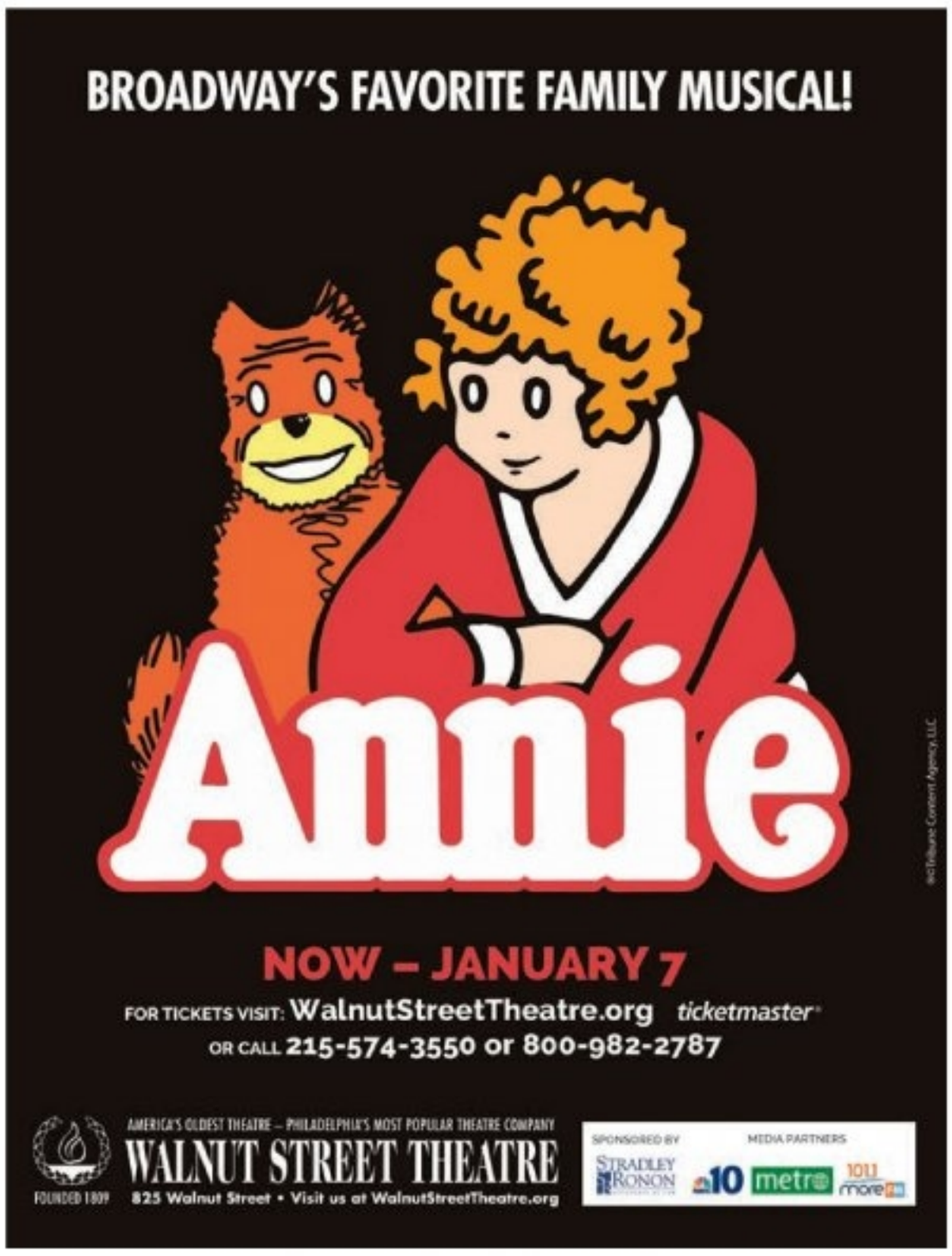
"There are so many stories we get to tell, within the music itself and when we perform," Gonzalez says. "We put a little bit of ourselves into what we are singing. It isn't just telling the surface of the story in code."

Gonzalez grew up in South Philly and is well versed in its musical history. He expressed surprise that classical music doesn't play more of a role in celebrating the region's history, being the birthplace of iconic singers Marian Anderson and Mario Lanza.

"Classical music especially isn't on the forefront as much as we would like in South Philly," Gonzalez laughs. "It was a no brainer to do this at the Singing Fountain. We're getting as many people as we can to make a joyful noise."

Copies of the sheet music will be provided.





3 Things to watch for as Eagles face Seahawks

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Clean it up

In their dominating 31-3 win against the Bears last week, a few things were overshadowed by the victorious performance of the team as a whole. Most important of these are the four fumbles and 11 penalties in the game. Obviously they weren't costly in the standings as Philly won handily. But in a place like Seattle, turnovers and penalties could be a death sentence.

"I wanted to make sure that they understood not only the positive that came out of this past game and these past few weeks," Eagles head coach Doug Pederson said. "As we go down the stretch, and we get into these playoff-type atmosphere football games, particularly this week on the road, that we have to take care of the football. You can't fumble it four times and give it up three. Penalties at this stadium are going to hurt you. It hurt us last year. We can't do it."

Wild out west

The Eagles, if they aren't Thursday night (with a Cowboys loss), can become NFC East champions by beating the Seahawks. But more than that, the next two games against Seattle and Los Angeles will give Philly it's first playoff-like test against likely teams. There is a lot to get distracted by — be it scoreboard watching or spending nine days on the West Coast between games. Philly has to stay on task.

Strike the Seahawks

Just like in recent weeks against the Cowboys (no Sean Lee or Ezekiel Elliott), Cardinals (No Carson Palmer or David Johnson) and other teams, the Birds will get quite the break against the typically intimidating Seahawks defense. The Legion of Doom will be without Richard Sherman and Kam Chancellor in their secondary, offering an opportunity for Carson Wentz to attack through the air much more aggressively than he otherwise would. However, Seattle does still have Earl Thomas at safety to contend with.

"You really have to be aware of where he's at and where he lines up," Pederson said. "Carson has to do a great job with his eyes this week, but that guy has taken over that leadership role with Richard out and Kam out." EVAN MACY

The 10-1 Eagles face the 7-4 Seahawks in the late game Sunday night. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

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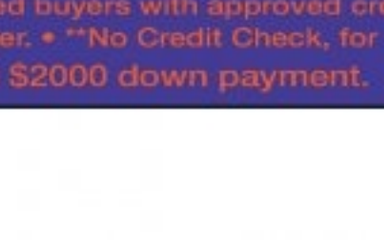

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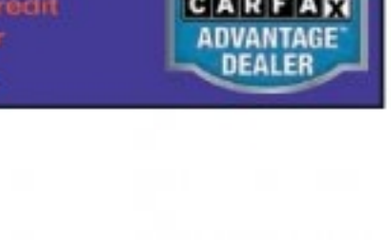

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Big-time Villanova still feeling at home in small-time Field House

Back where it all began, Villanova pounced Big 5 rival Penn, like they always do.

JON MARKS
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It's been 46 years since Tom Ingelsby was one of the mainstays on Jack Kraft's 1971 Villanova team that went to the National Championship. That team played its home games at a tiny cramped Main Line gym known as the Field House.

It's the same field house where the Wildcats took on city rival Penn Wednesday in a one-time only return to their old home while the Pavilion next door goes through renovations.

"I don't think we lost many home games here over the three-year stretch I played," said Ingelsby, while watching the 7-0 Cats systematically dismantle the Quakers, 90-62. "We had a great home court advantage. I remember some great players coming in here: Bob Lanier, Calvin Murphy, Ernie DiGregorio, Marvin Barnes. It was a great place to play and would get really loud in here."

Fresh from winning the Battle 4 Atlantis tournament in the Bahamas, there was some concern the Wildcats might take Penn lightly, especially considering the fact they'd won the last 14 straight over the Quakers. Then again, Villanova has been beating everyone in town for quite a while, carrying a remarkable 18 game winning streak in City Series play vs. Penn, Temple, Saint Joseph's and LaSalle into play.

Villanova continues to prove they are unbeatable in the Big 5. GETTY IMAGES

Well, make that now 15 straight over the Red and Blue, 19 in a row in the Big Five, with a trip to Hawk Hill Saturday next on their agenda, after Jalen Brunson's 17 points led a parade of five Wildcats in double figures.

"It doesn't matter about the streak," Villanova head coach Jay Wright said. "We know if you don't bring it we're going to get beat. We never lose respect for any of those teams. But we came to play tonight. I was really proud of our leadership. They set the tone."

On the other hand the 5-4 Quakers, coming off an exhilarating four-overtime win at Monmouth, knew the No. 4 ranked Wildcats aren't just any team.

"When you watch them on film you're slightly underwhelmed because they don't have crazy talent like some of the teams in the ACC," Penn's third-year coach Steve Donahue, who coached previously at Boston College in the ACC, said. "On tape Villanova doesn't jump out at you. But what is quite apparent when you play them is there's never a team I've coached against that is smarter, tougher and more selfless."

Brunson, along with Mikal Bridges, Phil Booth and Omari Spellman (14 apiece), did their thing at the place where the late Howard Porter and Paul Arizin, Chris Ford, Eddie Pinckney and many others, including 'Nova's No. 17 leading scorer Ingelsby used to call home.

By the time they finally start Big East play, Villanova will have already finished City Series action, with LaSalle and Temple on the slate right after a Broadway date against NCAA runners-up Gonzaga.

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The personal goods stored therein by the following may include, but are not limited to general household, furniture, boxes, clothes, and appliances.
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Unit # 1818 Joyce Louise Palio • Unit # 2150 Caitlin Dianna Bunn • Unit # 2167 Abdal Hill
Unit #2342 Donald Loblondo • Unit # 2576 Edward Wright • Unit # 2577 Edward Wright
Unit # 2578 John Sullivan • Unit # 2595 Philip Hendren • Unit # 2689 Jennifer Jordon
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Unit# 2161 Joel Robinson • Unit# 3016 James Grazier
Unit# 4004 James Rogers • Unit# 4022 Eugene Cooper
Unit# 4037 Gaunic Reid • Unit# 6017 Dorothy Simmons
Unit# 6040 David Brooks • Unit# 6054 Joel Robinson
Unit# 7014 Janice Lee • Unit# 7029 David Brooks • Unit# 7043 Devon Banks
Unit# 7061 Erika Begg • Unit# 8143 Kevin Williams • Unit# 8158 Aliya Best
Unit# E32 Oliver Assiran, Symphony Square • Unit# F16 Tyrone Sydnor
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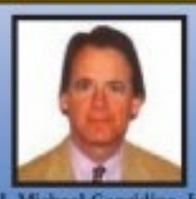
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215.236.7700 (ext. 325)
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Or apply at www.barberinstitute.org EOE

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Public Notices

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1831 W Allegheny Ave on December 20th, 2017 at 12:00PM
The following self storage units will be sold to the highest bidder to satisfy the owner's lien for rent under 73 P.S. 1901 ET. Sec. Auction is with reserve. Devon Self Storage reserves the right to set minimum bids and to refuse bids. CASH ONLY. Contents must be removed within 24 hours. Auctioneer - Philip T. Cline PA License AU005596

Unit Name Contents
2056 ALATORRE, RAQUEL Phoenix Groups Design - Build LLC Household, Clothing, Furniture
2038 ALATORRE, RAQUEL Phoenix Groups Design - Build LLC Household, Clothing, Furniture
5121 Bullock, Debra Bags • 4020 Francis, James M Phoenix Groups Design - Build LLC Office, Commercial
4107 Gooding-Jones, Tyrita S Household, Clothing, Furniture • 5023 Hightower, Joseph L Household, Furniture
5304 Mitchell, Lenward Household, Clothing • 4044 Moore, Catrina T Household, Clothing, Furniture
2071 Saddler, Yolanda Household, Totes • 5119 Seaborn, Donald S Tools

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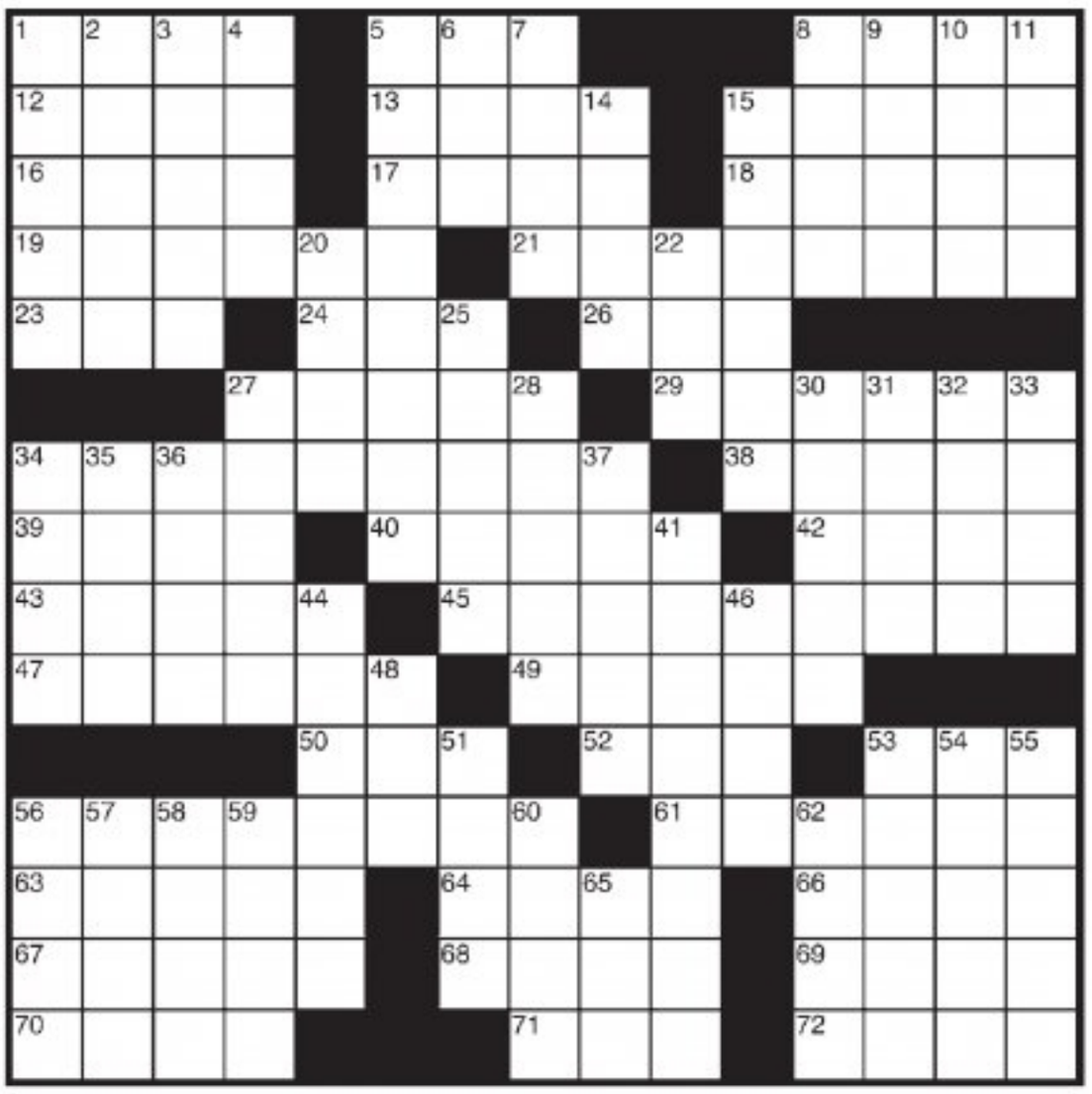
Across
1 Choir member
5 Twist-off –
8 TKO officials
12 Line on a map
13 Pasture moms
15 Donkey
16 Sapporo sport
17 Orderly
18 – on (incited)
19 Diva's performances
21 Ringling Museum of Art site
23 Beatty of "Network"
24 – de guerre
26 Tampa Bay pro
27 Courtyards
29 Spool
34 Hotel staff member
38 Wynonna Judd's mom
39 Plunder
40 Mergers and buyouts
42 Picket-line crosser
43 Cortes foe
45 Novosibirsk natives
47 Had to have
49 Lacking energy value (hyph.)
50 Eldest March girl
52 Freshly painted
53 Flower adornment
56 Galloped along
61 Totally lacking
63 Workers' group
64 "Kon- –"
66 Boundary line
67 Remove the bones
68 Noticed
69 Ottoman title
70 Bolted
71 Follow closely
72 Hires out

Down
1 Illegal burning
2 Jeweler's lens
3 Domesticated
4 Bouquet
5 Bowdlerized
6 Fill with wonder
7 Pod fillers
8 Carpets
9 Therefore
10 Worry too much
11 Pepsi offering
14 Wild guess
15 Lighthouse light
20 Debate side
22 Chafe
25 Sticks in the mud
27 Went on stage
28 Once more
30 Spaghetti sauce herb
31 – Raton, Fla.
32 Somali-born supermodel
33 Robins' bills
34 "Braveheart" group
35 Flow slowly
36 Jot down
37 Macaroni shape
41 Withdrawing
44 Dental fixative
46 Evaluate
48 "The," to Wolfgang
51 Pulls down
53 Inn
54 Black billiard ball
55 Theories
56 Sleeve end
57 Indigo dye
58 Cleopatra's river
59 Steel- -- boots
60 Regimen
62 Tender cutlets
65 Type of parrot



metro.us/sudoku

easy

1		3			8	2	4	
	7				3	8		6
2	9		4					
3							2	9
4	8							5
					5		1	8
9		2	6				5	
	5	1	9			4		2

hard

3		1		2			9	
		4	9	8			1	
8	7							2
6					8		5	
			7		2			
	9		5					3
7							8	4
	8			4	5	2		
	4			7		1		9

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries A positive change in your status will brighten your day. Spending time with a loved one and planning for the future look promising. Live, love and laugh.

Taurus Emotions will swell if you get into a discussion regarding a joint venture. Partnerships need to be dealt with innovatively if you don't want negativity to escalate.

Gemini Look for the best place to invest your time and money. Don't hesitate to put your needs first. Staying healthy emotionally and financially should be your goal.

Cancer Take pride in what you do if you want to enjoy the perks that go along with being unique and innovative. A chance to join forces with someone interesting looks promising.

Leo Brains plus drive and enthusiasm will help you win whatever challenge comes your way. Don't lose sight of your goal, and enjoy the process of reaching your destination.

Virgo Don't believe everything you hear. Bring up issues that could prove troublesome and revamp deals that are not fair or in your best interest.

Libra Spend wisely. If you do your research, you will find a bargain that suits your budget. A change in the way you feel about someone will prompt action.

Scorpio Emotions will mount when dealing with partnership concerns. Look for a unique solution to counter any bad effects resulting from discord. Choose peace over criticism.

Sagittarius Emotional manipulation is apparent when dealing with partners or youngsters. Don't give in when you should be firm. Concentrate on your needs.

Capricorn You can make a positive change at home based on what's best for you emotionally, financially and professionally. Look for new ways to use your knowledge and talents.

Aquarius Expect someone to disagree with your plans. Emotional outbursts are best handled with patience and tolerance. Be firm, but don't burn bridges.

Pisces Rely on your experience to help you avoid a financial loss. Don't feel responsible for what others do. Keep your distance and do your own thing. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

M	E	R	E	■	B	L	U	E	S	■	A	L	P	S
I	C	O	N	■	L	O	R	R	Y	■	L	E	A	P
C	R	U	D	■	A	L	A	R	M	■	O	N	C	E
A	U	T	U	M	N	A	L	■	B	A	N	D	E	D
■	■	■	R	O	C	■	■	L	O	B	S	■	■	■
G	A	L	O	S	H	■	■	A	L	S	O	R	A	N
A	M	I	S	S	■	Y	E	T	I	■	■	O	D	E
T	O	N	■	■	A	U	R	I	C	■	■	M	O	W
O	R	K	■	■	S	C	A	N	■	F	L	A	R	E
R	E	S	T	O	C	K	■	■	W	I	E	N	E	R
■	■	■	A	W	R	Y	■	■	E	R	G	■	■	■
A	L	U	M	N	I	■	F	R	E	S	H	E	N	S
M	A	C	E	■	B	A	R	E	D	■	O	P	A	L
P	I	L	L	■	E	L	A	T	E	■	R	E	B	A
S	T	A	Y	■	S	I	T	E	D	■	N	E	S	T

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